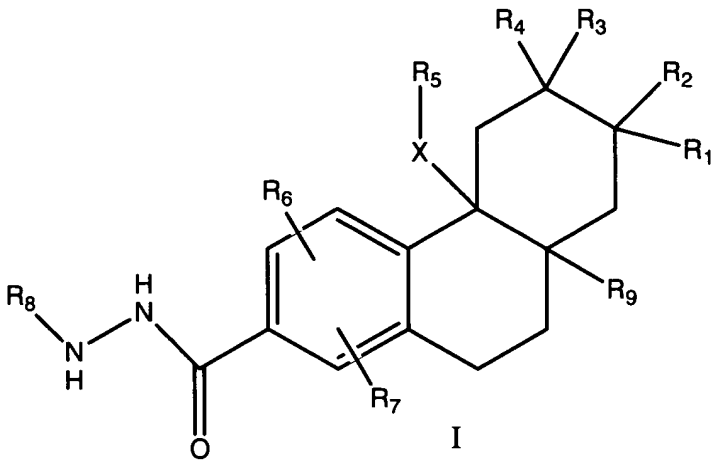
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1.(Original) A compound of the formula I




I

an isomer thereof, a prodrug of said compound or isomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, isomer or prodrug;

wherein $R_1$ is a) -H, b) -($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl-A-($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl, or -($C_1$-$C_3$)alkyl-A-($C_1$-$C_3$)alkyl-A-($C_0$-$C_3$)alkyl, wherein A for each occurrence is independently S, O, N, OH or $NH_2$; wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 $R_x$, c) -($C_2$-$C_{10}$)alkenyl optionally substituted with 1 or 2 $R_x$, d) -($C_2$-$C_{10}$)alkynyl, -ethynyl ($C_1$-$C_8$)alkoxy or -($C_1$-$C_4$)alkoxy($C_1$-$C_4$)alkylethynyl, wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 0, 1 or 2 $R_x$, e) -CH=C=$CH_2$, f) -CN, g) -($C_3$-$C_9$)cycloalkyl, h) -Z-($C_6$-$C_{10}$)aryl, i) -Z-het, j) -C(O)O($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl, k) -O($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl, l) -Z-S-$R_{12}$, m) -Z-S(O)-$R_{12}$, n) -Z-S(O)$_2$-$R_{12}$, o) -($C_1$-$C_8$)alkyl, wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1, 2, or 3 halo, p) -$NR_{12}$O-($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl or q) -$CH_2OR_x$;

Z for each occurrence is independently a) -($C_0$-$C_6$)alkyl, b) -($C_2$-$C_6$)alkenyl or c) -($C_2$-$C_6$)alkynyl;

$R_x$ for each occurrence is independently a) -OH, b) -halo, c) -Z-($C_1$-$C_8$)alkyl, wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1, 2, or 3 halo, d) -CN, e) -$NR_{12}R_{13}$, f) -($C_3$-$C_6$)cycloalkyl, g) -($C_3$-$C_6$)cycloalkenyl, h) -($C_0$-$C_3$)alkyl-($C_6$-$C_{10}$)aryl, i) -het or j) -$N_3$;

wherein het is a 5-,6- or 7-membered saturated, partially saturated or unsaturated ring containing from one to three heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur; and including any bicyclic group in which any of the above heterocyclic rings is fused to a

benzene ring or another heterocycle; and the nitrogen may be in the oxidized state giving the N-oxide form; and optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 $R_y$;

$R_y$ for each occurrence is independently a) -halo, b) -OH, c) -$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, d) -$(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, e) -$(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl, f) -O$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, g) -O$(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, h) -O$(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl, i) -$(C_0$-$C_6)$alkyl-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, j) -C(O)-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, k) -Z-$SO_2R_{12}$, l)-Z-$SOR_{12}$, m) -Z-$SR_{12}$, n) -$NR_{12}$-$SO_2R_{13}$, o) -$NR_{12}$-C(O)-$R_{13}$, p) -$NR_{12}$-$OR_{13}$, q) -$SO_2$-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, r) -CN, s) -$CF_3$, t) -C(O)$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, u) =O, or v) -Z-$SO_2$-phenyl;

$R_2$, $R_3$ and $R_4$ are each independently a) -H, b) -halo, c) -OH, d) -$(C_1$-$C_{10})$alkyl, wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 $R_x$, e) -$NR_{12}R_{13}$, f) -Z-C(O)O$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, g) -Z-C(O)$NR_{12}R_{13}$, h) $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkoxy, i) -Z-O-C(O)-$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, j) -Z-O-$(C_1$-$C_3)$alkyl-C(O)-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, k) -Z-O-$(C_1$-$C_3)$alkyl-C(O)-O$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, l) -O-$(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, m) -O-$(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl, n) -O-Z-het, o) -COOH, p) -C(OH)$R_{12}R_{13}$ or q) -Z-CN;

$R_{12}$ and $R_{13}$ for each occurrence are each independently a) -H, b) -$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl wherein 1 or 2 carbon atoms, other than the connecting carbon atom, may optionally be replaced with 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently selected from S, O and N and wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 halo, c) -$(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 halo or d) -$(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl wherein 1 carbon atom, other than the connecting carbon atom and the ethynyl atoms, may optionally be replaced with 1 oxygen atom and wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 halo;

or $R_{12}$ and $R_{13}$ are taken together with N to which they are attached to form het;

X is a) absent, b) -$CH_2$-, c) -CH(OH)- or d) -C(O)-;

$R_5$ is a) -H, b) -Z-$CF_3$, c) -$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, d) -$(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, e) -$(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl, f) -$(C_6$-$C_{10})$aryl, g) -CHO, h) -CH=N-$OR_{12}$, i) -Z-C(O)$OR_{12}$, j) -Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, k) -Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}$-Z-het, l) -Z-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, m) -Z-$NR_{12}$het, n) -Z-het, o) -Z-O-het, p) -Z-$(C_6$-$C_{10})$aryl, q) -Z-O-$(C_6$-$C_{10})$aryl, r) -CHOH-$(C_6$-$C_{10})$aryl or s) -C(O)-$(C_6$-$C_{10})$aryl wherein said $(C_6$-$C_{10})$aryl is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 of the following: -Z-OH, -Z-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, -Z-$NR_{12}$-het, -C(O)$NR_{12}R_{13}$, -C(O)O$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, -C(O)OH, -C(O)-het, -$NR_{12}$-C(O)-$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, -$NR_{12}$-C(O)-$(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, -$NR_{12}$-C(O)-$(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl, -$NR_{12}$-C(O)-Z-het, -CN, -Z-het, -O-$(C_1$-$C_3)$alkyl-C(O)-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, -O-$(C_1$-$C_3)$alkyl-C(O)O$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, -$NR_{12}$-Z-C(O)O$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, -N(Z-C(O)O$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl)$_2$, -$NR_{12}$-Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, -Z-$NR_{12}$-$SO_2$-$R_{13}$, -$NR_{12}$-$SO_2$-het, -C(O)H, -Z-$NR_{12}$-Z-O$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, -Z-$NR_{12}$-Z-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, -Z-$NR_{12}$-$(C_3$-$C_6)$cycloalkyl, -Z-N(Z-O$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl)$_2$, -$SO_2R_{12}$, -$SOR_{12}$, -$SR_{12}$, -$SO_2NR_{12}R_{13}$, -O-C(O)-$(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl, -O-$SO_2$-$(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl, -halo or -$CF_3$;

$R_6$ and $R_9$ are each independently a) -H, b) -halo, c) $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl substituted with 0 to 3 halo, d) -$(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl substituted with 0 to 3 halo, e) -$(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 halo,

f) -CN, g) -($C_3$-$C_6$)cycloalkyl, h) -($C_3$-$C_6$)cycloalkenyl, i) -OH, j) -O-($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl, k) -O-($C_1$-$C_6$)alkenyl, l) -O-($C_1$-$C_6$)alkynyl, m) -$NR_{12}R_{13}$, n) -C(O)$OR_{12}$ or o) -C(O)$NR_{12}R_{13}$;

$R_7$ is a) –H, b) -($C_1$-$C_{10}$)alkyl optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from -halo, -OH and -$N_3$, c) -($C_2$-$C_{10}$)alkenyl optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from -halo, -OH and -$N_3$, d) -($C_2$-$C_{10}$)alkynyl optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from -halo, -OH and -$N_3$, e) -halo, f) -Z-CN, g) -OH, h) -Z-het, i) -Z-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, j) -Z-C(O)-het, k) -Z-C(O)-($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl, l) -Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, m) -Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}$-Z-CN, n) -Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}$-Z-het, o) -Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}$-Z-($C_6$-$C_{10}$)aryl, p) -Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}$-Z-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, q) -Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}$-Z-O($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl, r) –($C_0$-$C_6$)alkyl-C(O)OH, s) -Z-C(O)O($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl, t) -Z-O-($C_0$-$C_6$)alkyl-het, u) -Z-O-($C_0$-$C_6$)alkyl-($C_6$-$C_{10}$)aryl, v) -Z-O-($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 or 2 $R_y$, w) -Z-O-($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl-CH(O), x) -Z-O-($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl-$NR_{12}$-het, y) -Z-O-Z-het-Z-het, z) -Z-O-Z-het-Z-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, a1) -Z-O-Z-het-C(O)-het, b1) -Z-O-Z-C(O)-het, c1) -Z-O-Z-C(O)-het-het, d1) -Z-O-Z-C(O)-($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl, e1) -Z-O-Z-C(S)-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, f1) -Z-O-Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, g1) -Z-O-Z-($C_1$-$C_3$)alkyl-C(O)-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, h1) -Z-O-Z-C(O)-O($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl, i1) -Z-O-Z-C(O)-OH, j1) -Z-O-Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}$-O($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl, k1) -Z-O-Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}$-OH, l1) -Z-O-Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}$-Z-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, m1) -Z-O-Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}$-Z-het, n1) -Z-O-Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}$-$SO_2$-($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl, o1) -Z-O-Z-C(=$NR_{12}$)($NR_{12}R_{13}$), p1) -Z-O-Z-C(=N$OR_{12}$)($NR_{12}R_{13}$), q1) -Z-$NR_{12}$-C(O)-O-Z-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, r1) -Z-S-C(O)-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, s1) -Z-O-$SO_2$-($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl, t1) -Z-O-$SO_2$-($C_6$-$C_{10}$)aryl, u1) -Z-O-$SO_2$-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, v1) -Z-O-$SO_2$-$CF_3$, w1) -Z-$NR_{12}$C(O)$OR_{13}$ or x1) -Z-$NR_{12}$C(O)$R_{13}$;

$R_8$ is het.

2. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein het in all instances is a heteroaryl having five to seven members.

3. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein $R_1$ is a) -H, b) -($C_1$-$C_{10}$)alkyl, wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 $R_x$, c) -($C_2$-$C_{10}$)alkenyl optionally substituted with 1 or 2 $R_x$, d) -($C_2$-$C_{10}$)alkynyl, wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 $R_x$, e) -($C_3$-$C_6$)cycloalkyl, f) -Z-($C_6$-$C_{10}$)aryl, or g) -Z-heteroaryl having five to seven members;

wherein $R_x$ for each occurrence is independently -OH, -halo, and -Z-$CF_3$;

wherein $R_2$ is a) -H, b) -halo, c) -OH, d) -($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl optionally substituted with -OH, e) -Z-heteroaryl having five to seven members, f) –COOH, g) -($C_1$-$C_{10}$)alkyl, wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 $R_x$.

4. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein $R_3$ and $R_4$ are each independently a) -H, b) -halo, c) -OH, d) -($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl optionally substituted with -OH, e) -Z-heteroaryl having five to seven

members, f) –COOH, g) -($C_1$-$C_{10}$)alkyl, wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 $R_x$;

wherein $R_x$ for each occurrence is independently -OH, -halo, and -Z-$CF_3$.

5. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein $R_5$ is a) -H, b) -Z-$CF_3$, c) -($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl, d) -($C_2$-$C_6$)alkenyl, e) -($C_2$-$C_6$)alkynyl, f) -($C_6$-$C_{10}$)aryl, g) -CHO, h) -CH=N-$OR_{12}$, i) -Z-C(O)$OR_{12}$, j) -Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, k) -Z-C(O)-$NR_{12}$-Z-heteroaryl having five to seven members, l) -Z-$NR_{12}R_{13}$, m) -Z-$NR_{12}$-heteroaryl having five to seven members, n) -Z-heteroaryl having five to seven members, o) -Z-O-heteroaryl having five to seven members.

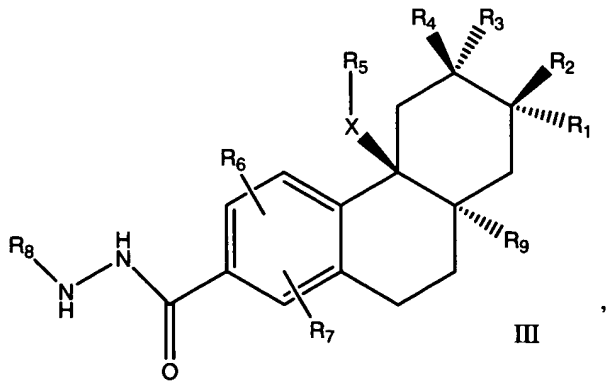
6. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein $R_6$ and $R_9$ are each independently a) -H, b) -halo, c) ($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 halo, d) -($C_2$-$C_6$)alkenyl optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 halo, e) -($C_2$-$C_6$)alkynyl optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 halo, f) -CN, g) -($C_3$-$C_6$)cycloalkyl, h) -($C_3$-$C_6$)cycloalkenyl, i) -OH, j) -O-($C_1$-$C_6$)alkyl, k) -O-($C_1$-$C_6$)alkenyl, l) -O-($C_1$-$C_6$)alkynyl, m) -$NR_{12}R_{13}$, n) -C(O)$OR_{12}$ or o) -C(O)$NR_{12}R_{13}$.

7. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein $R_7$ is a) –H, b) -($C_1$-$C_{10}$)alkyl optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from -halo, -OH and -$N_3$, c) -($C_2$-$C_{10}$)alkenyl optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from -halo, -OH and -$N_3$, d) -($C_2$-$C_{10}$)alkynyl optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from -halo, -OH and -$N_3$, e) -halo, f) -Z-CN, g) -OH, or h) -Z-heteroaryl having five to seven members.

8. (Original) The compound of claim 7, wherein $R_8$ is a 6-membered unsaturated ring.

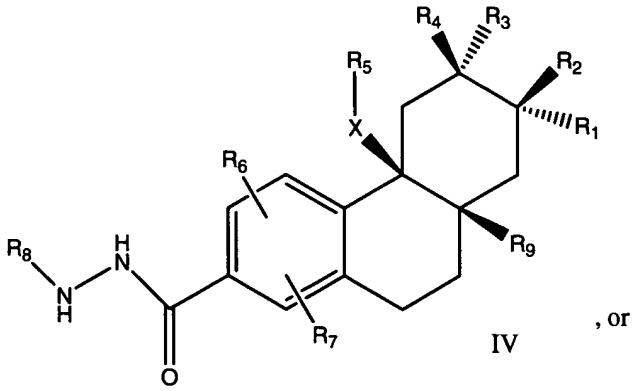
9. (Original) The compound of claim 1 selected from the group consisting of 4b-Ethyl-7-hydroxy-7-trifluoromethyl-4b,5,6,7,8,8a,9,10-octahydro-phenanthrene-2-carboxylic acid N'-pyridin-2-yl-hydrazide , 4b-Benzyl-7-hydroxy-7-trifluoromethyl-4b,5,6,7,8,8a,9,10-octahydro-phenanthrene-2-carboxylic acid N'-pyridin-2-yl-hydrazide, 4b-Ethyl-6,7-dihydroxy-6-methyl-7-thiazol-2-yl-4b,5,6,7,8,8a,9,10-octahydro-phenanthrene-2-carboxylic acid N'-pyridin-2-yl-hydrazide.

10. (Original) The compound of claim 8, having the formulas III, IV or V:

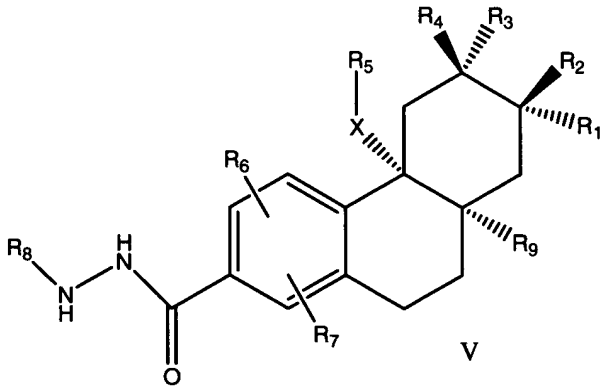



III

FORM AMEND
Rev. 5/27/03




IV , or




V

an isomer thereof, a prodrug of said compound or isomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, isomer or prodrug;

wherein $R_1$ is $(C_1\text{-}C_{10})$alkyl wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 halo or -Z-heteroaryl having five to seven members;

Z is $(C_0\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

$R_2$, $R_3$ and $R_4$ are each independently a) -H, b) -halo, c) -OH, d) $-(C_1\text{-}C_{10})$alkyl, wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 -OH, -halo or $-Z\text{-}CF_3$; wherein $R_1$ is different from $R_2$ and $R_3$ is different from $R_4$;

X is a) absent, or b) $-CH_2-$;

$R_5$ is a) -H, b) $-Z\text{-}CF_3$, c) $-(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, d) $-(C_6\text{-}C_{10})$aryl or e) -Z-heteroaryl having five to seven members;

$R_6$ is a) -H, b) -halo, c) $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 halo;

$R_7$ is -H or $-(C_1\text{-}C_{10})$alkyl optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from -halo, -OH and $-N_3$;

$R_8$ is a 6-membered unsaturated ring containing from one to three heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

$R_9$ is hydrogen.

11. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 10, wherein $R_3$ and $R_4$ are different~~; wherein said carbon atoms designated C*, independent of each other, has R- or S- configuration~~.

12. (Original) The compound of claim 11 selected from the group consisting of all the isomers of the following compounds: 4b-Ethyl-7-hydroxy-7-trifluoromethyl-4b,5,6,7,8,8a,9,10-octahydro-phenanthrene-2-carboxylic acid N'-pyridin-2-yl-hydrazide , 4b-Benzyl-7-hydroxy-7-trifluoromethyl-4b,5,6,7,8,8a,9,10-octahydro-phenanthrene-2-carboxylic acid N'-pyridin-2-yl-hydrazide, 4b-Ethyl-6,7-dihydroxy-6-methyl-7-thiazol-2-yl-4b,5,6,7,8,8a,9,10-octahydro-phenanthrene-2-carboxylic acid N'-pyridin-2-yl-hydrazide.

13. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition for treating a disorder selected from the group consisting of inflammatory disorders, endocrine disorders; collagen diseases; dermatologic diseases; allergic states; ophthalmic diseases; respiratory diseases; hematologic disorders; neoplastic diseases; edematous states; and gastrointestinal diseases in a mammal comprising (1) the compound of claims 1 or 10, an isomer thereof, a prodrug of said compound or isomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, isomer or prodrug and (2) at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, vehicle, diluent, excipient.

14.(Currently amended) A method of treating obesity, diabetes, anxiety, or inflammatory diseases in a mammal comprising administering an effective amount of the compound of claims 1 ~~or 10~~, an isomer thereof, a prodrug of said compound or isomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, isomer or prodrug.

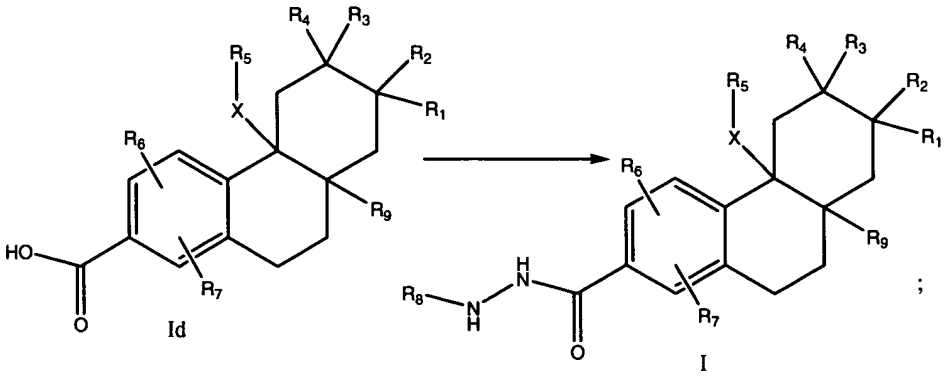
15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said inflammatory disorders are selected from the group consisting of arthritis, asthma, rhinitis and immunomodulation.

16. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising (1) the compound of claim 1, (2) a second pharmaceutically active compound, and (3) at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, vehicle, diluent, excipient.

17. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 16, wherein the second pharmaceutically active compound is selected from the group consisting of $\beta_3$ agonist, a thyromimetic agent, an eating behavior modifying agent, a NPY antagonist,
an aldose reductase inhibitor, a glycogen phosphorylase inhibitor, a sorbitol dehydrogenase inhibitor, insulin, troglitazone, sulfonylureas, glipazide, glyburide, chlorpropamide, a glucocorticoid receptor agonist, a cholinomimetic drug, an anti-Parkinson's drug, an antianxialytic drug, an antidepressant drug, or an antipsychotic drug.

18. (Original) A process of preparing compounds of formula I, an isomer thereof, a prodrug of said compound or isomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, isomer or prodrug,

comprising the step of coupling compound of formula Id with a hydrazine under amide forming conditions:




;

wherein $R_1$, $R_2$, $R_3$, $R_4$, $R_5$, $R_6$, $R_7$, $R_8$, $R_9$ and X are as defined in claim 1.